

NEWS RELEASE

(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT FRANK CONNER,
MASS MERCHANDISERS, INC. - 501-365-3240)

July 12, 1990
Arkwood

In response to press inquiries, the following statement was issued today by Allan Gates, a partner in the Little Rock law firm of Mitchell, Williams, Selig & Tucker, representing Mass Merchandisers, Inc., of Harrison, a unit of McKesson Corp., San Francisco:

"We fully agree with the State of Arkansas and the EPA that remedial action is required at the site of this closed wood treatment facility, and Mass Merchandisers is prepared to undertake this effort. There is similar agreement that there is no significant environmental impact evident at this time due to offsite migration of contaminants.

"We have fully cooperated with the State and the EPA in a remedial investigation and a feasibility study to determine a cost-effective method of remedial action that protects human health and the environment. The feasibility study, done by independent consultants acting under the oversight of the EPA and approved by EPA, evaluated nine remedial alternatives to remediate the Arkwood site. MMI has presented to EPA its recommendation that the preferred alternative is to incinerate sludges offsite and to consolidate and cap the affected soils.

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MMI does not believe that ^{THE} onsite incineration ^{PROPOSED BY EPA} for affected soils is warranted for this site when measured against the overall environmental effectiveness of alternative remedial actions. It is our intent to continue to press for our goal to establish that consolidating and capping the affected soils is the appropriate remedy for the Arkwood site.

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